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Conference on Disarmament

20 August 2014

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Note verbale dated 18 August 2014 from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the comment by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the protest expressed to the Russian Federation regarding its attempts to extend its jurisdiction over the Ukrainian nuclear facilities and material in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

The delegation of Ukraine to the Conference on Disarmament presents its compliments to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference H.E. Mr. Michael Møller and has the honour to transmit herewith the comment of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the protest, expressed to the Russian Federation regarding its attempts to extend Russian jurisdiction over the Ukrainian nuclear facilities and materials in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. These actions pose a direct threat to the international regime established by the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 1 July 1968.

The delegation of Ukraine would appreciate if this Comment could be issued as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and circulated to all member States and observer States of the Conference

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Comment of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the protest, expressed to the Russian Federation regarding its attempts to extend Russian jurisdiction over the Ukrainian nuclear facilities and materials in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine expressed a strong protest regarding the attempts of the Russian Federation to extend its national jurisdiction over Ukraine's nuclear facilities, installations and materials, located on the temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation part of the territory of Ukraine in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as well as the intention to extend to them the application of the provisions of the Agreement between the USSR and the IAEA of 21 February 1985.

The note, passed to the Russian side, emphasizes that all nuclear facilities, installations and materials located on the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol are the property of Ukraine. Their legal status, operating procedures, use and maintenance are regulated by the Ukrainian legislation as well as provisions of the Agreement between Ukraine and the IAEA for the Application of Safeguards in Connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 21 September 1995 and its Additional protocol of 15 August 2000.

Attempts of the Russian Federation to take any actions, aimed at the unilateral change of the national jurisdiction of the Ukrainian nuclear facilities, located on the territory of Ukraine, temporarily occupied by Russia, are void. These actions pose a direct threat to the international regime established by the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 1 July 1968.

It is also noted that deployment of nuclear weapons or redirecting Ukrainian nuclear materials and facilities, in particular the DR-100 research reactor and other nuclear installations of the Sevastopol National University of Nuclear Energy and Industry, are not allowed for military purposes throughout the territory of Ukraine, including the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

In this context the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine warns the Russian side against any actions leading to the violation of the non-nuclear status of the occupied by the Russian Federation part of Ukraine's territory, as well as the extension of the provisions of the Agreement between the USSR and the IAEA of 21 February 1985 to the Ukrainian nuclear facilities and materials.